

January 26, 1954

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Dear Carl:

As I feared, 14854 alpha, is growing too slowly and forms too small colonies on our agar media. It does not do too badly in broth for some reason, but the colony ~~size~~ is fatal to our experiments, both in working with the "petite colonies" variation and in the detection of nutritional mutants.

I am sorry to put you and Jerry to this repeated trouble. Do you think you can furnish another wild-type, alpha culture filling the prescriptions of vigorous ~~growth~~ and non-flocculent growth, high fertility, and (as far as one can hope) mendelian behavior?

15199 a looks to be all right in these regards (fertility not yet tested) and we are going ahead with it as best we can while waiting for the other mating type.

Yours,

Joshua Lederberg